- REASONS Humbly Offered to the Honourable House of Commons, Against an Additional Duty of one Penny per Pound Weight, Proposed to be Laid on Tann'd Sheep and Lamb-Skins, called Bazels; and of Three half-pence per Pound Weight, on all Tawed Sheep and Lamb-Skins, Drest in that Part of Great-Britain, Called England, which will be Thirty sive per Cent. on Tann'd Sheep and Lamb, Called Bazels; And Fifty per Cent. on Tawed Sheep and Lamb; and is not proportionable to the Value of Oyl-Sheep and Lamb, nor Scotch Lambs Tawed, nor Sheep-Skins made into Parchment.
- AWED Sheep and Lamb of the Growth of England are generally thick and greafy, and flautery, and much Salt used in Dressing; that one Hundred Skins, when drest in Tawed Leather, weigh as much as Three Hundred Drest in Oyl; the Oyl-Leather being worth 20 d. per 1b; and the Tann'd and Taw'd Sheep and Lamb-Skins not worth above 4 d. per 1b; and Writing Parchment worth as much as Oyl-Leather.
- II. Besides it will much lessen the Duty, and lower the Value of Lands, the Duty being laid so unequal and high, and the Charge of Dressings and Tanning so great, that many Thousands will be cut in pieces, that will not pay the Cost and Charge in Tanning and Dressing of Tawed Leather.
- III. The Course and Thick Tann'd Ship and Lamb, and Tawed Leather are Generally for Cloathing the Poor Labouring Men, so that they will pay 50 per Cent. when those that wear the fine and thin, and are better able to bear the Duty, will pay but 15 per Cent. So the weightiest Burden will lye on the Poor.
- IV. The Tawers and Glovers are very numerous, and generally poor; and if the Ballance be not laid equal in Trade, the Oyl-Leather Dresser can give, according to the Duty intended to be laid, above Twenty per Cent more for the Raw Skins than the Tanner, and Tawer, or Glover can do, which will be the utter Ruin of Thousands of Families.
- V. Scotch Lambs are very fine and thin, and clear from Grease, and do not weigh half so much as English Lambs do, though they be above double the Value in Price, they being well flaid; which if the Honourable House will be pleased to Order a strict Clause, as they have on Hides and Calve-Skins, to oblige the Butchers to flee well, and not cut and flaughter the Sheep and Lamb-Skins as they do, it will much advance the Duty, and be a Great Advantage to the Publick.

Lastly, all the aforesaid Reasons and Allegations can be proved to be true against all the Objections that can be made again laying an Equal Duty on Tanned and Tawed Sheep and Lamb, to bear an equal Proportion to Sheep and Lamb-Skins Drest in Oyl, and Writing Parchment, being the Growth of that Part of Great Britain, called England.

All which is Humbly submitted to the Wisdom of this Honourable House, hoping that a Real Value may be equally Laid, that all Persons Trading in the afore-said Goods may bear his own Burden, which will be for the Good of their Families, and the Ballance of Trade, and the Publick Advantage of the whole Kingdom.

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